

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the claim to priority, appearing before paragraph [0001] of the specification, as follows:

This application claims priority to United States Provisional Application Serial No. 60/163,698 filed on November 5, 1999, expressly incorporated by reference. This application is a divisional ~~Continuation~~-application of United[[s]] States Application Serial No. 09/706,584 filed on November 3, 2000, now U.S. Patent. No. 6,748,258, expressly incorporated by reference.

Please amend paragraph [0073] of the specification as follows:

[0073] The treatment method also contemplates treating an underperfused region of the heart by combining the treatment directed at the "outer" boundary of the region, as described with respect to Figs. 2-5, with the treatment directed at the "inner" boundary of the heart, as described with respect to Figs. 6A-B.

Please amend paragraph [0087] of the specification as follows:

[0087] Likewise, when the cutting blade is extended passed its bend, and therefore assumes a full right angle in its cutting segment, as in Fig. 8C, rotation of the needle produces a substantially planar, circular cut such as indicated at ~~156, 158, and 160~~ 155a, 155b, and 155c in Fig. 9B. The three cuts in Fig. 9B were produced[[s]] by making successively shallower circular cuts in the tissue, with retracting and extending the cutting blade at each new depth in the myocardium. At each circular cut, drug may be introduced, essentially filling the circular space cut into the tissue.